

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 43 have been previously canceled. Claims 44 and 46 are amended and claim 45 remains unchanged. Claims 44 to 46 are subject to discussion.

Re Claims 44 to 46

In the Response to the Office Action dated September 9, 2008, the Applicant provides arguments toward allowance of the claims. These arguments remain valid and up-to-date.

In the Final Office Action dated December 10, 2008, it is stated that “the claims do not specify that the “variable-size data structure” is such as a single packet that contains base and, if required, bonus game data in the same singular structure”. Amended claims 44 and 46 now provide support for such interpretation.

In the Office Action dated September 9, 2008, pages 4 to 6, the Applicant explains why the claimed invention is not anticipated by nor obvious in view of Gentles. These arguments remain pertinent. In view of the amendments of claims 44 and 46, the Applicant believes that these amended claims provide an explicit basis to distinguish their scope from what is taught by Gentles by adding “communicated in a single data packet” in claim 44 and “in a single data packet” in claim 46. Furthermore, the Office Action seems to imply that this single-packet argument (which, according to the Office Action, is not specified in the claims filed on September 10, 2008) is not taught by Gentles.

It is the Applicant’s opinion that until now no argument has been provided against the allowance of the amended claims. No prior art teaches methods using the “variable-

size data structure communicated in a single data packet” as specified in claims 44 and 46.

In light of these claim amendments and the accompanying and previously submitted arguments, the Applicant believes independent claims 44 and 46, and dependent claim 45 to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the claim rejections is respectfully requested. Allowance of claims 44 to 46 at an early date is therefore respectfully requested.

In the event that there are any questions concerning these remarks or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone to the undersigned so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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